Simplification of Sales Tax Procedures

3914. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the Hindustan Times dated 26th March, 2000 capitioned "Tax lawyers moot simplification of ST. procedures" to bring about rationalisation in the tax structure.

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction to the 7-point strategy reportedly suggested by the All India Tax Advocates Forums President in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item is sketchy. The only issue mentioned in the newspaper report relates to freeze on the cumbersomed procedure connected with "C" forms and that these forms should be valid for one financial year and issued to the dealers in advance.

(c) Under the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, the system of single "C" form valid for one financial year between two dealers is already in existence.

Loan to Kargil War Widows

3915. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any new directive has been issued by Government to the nationalised banks in connection with providing loans or financial assistance to the Kargil war widows;

(b) whether Government propose to ensure that Kargil war widows do not find any unnecessary formalities in getting the loan;

(c) whether Government would also see that the loan is disbursed within a stipulated period;

(d) the details of the nationalised banks which have sanctioned loans to the Kargil war widows, State-wise; and

(e) the details of the Kargil war widows who have got loans, State-wise?